

Message Text

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ALL CONSULATES (BY POUCH)

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, CH, CA

SUBJECT:LARGE PRC DELEGATION VISITED CANADA, JUNE 23-30

1. TWENTY-NINE MAN PRC DELEGATION, LED BY VICE CHAIRMAN AND SEC GEN OF NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS (NPC) CHI PENG FEI, VISITED CANADA JUNE 23-30. ITINERARY INCLUDED STOPS AT MAJOR CITIES SUCH AS VANCOUVER, TORONTO, CALGARY, EDMONTON, AND OTTAWA WITH ELABORATE WINING AND DINING AT EACH PLACE. DELEGATION TOURED PULP AND PAPER PLANT IN BRITISH COLUMBIA; AN OIL REFINERY IN ALBERTA; A WHEAT POOL AND GAIN-HANDLING FACILITY IN SAME PROVINCE; AND MASSEY-FERGUSON FARM MACHINERY PLANT AND DOFASCO STEEL PLANT IN ONTARIO. ACCORDING TO WHITTLETON, HEAD OF NORTH-EAST ASIA DIVISION, EXTAFF, MANY DELEGATION MEMBERS, WHO APPARENTLY HAD HARDLY BEEN OFF THE COMMUNE PREVIOUSLY, WERE IMPRESSED TO THE POINT OF GAWKING AT THESE SIGHTS.

2. CANADIAN SPEAKERS OF HOUSE AND SENATE WERE OFFICIAL HOSTS AND EXTENDED DINNER WHEN DELEGATION WAS IN OTTAWA. ACCORDING TO WHITTLETON, CANADIAN POLITICIANS FLOCKED TO THE DINNER (NINE CABINET MINISTERS AND MANY MPS ATTENDED),
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REVEALING BOTH CANADIAN FASCINATION WITH CHINA AND MPS DESIRE TO BE INCLUDED IN RETURN VISIT, WHICH IS SCHEDULED FOR 1979.

3. SUBSTANTIVE TALKS IN OTTAWA INCLUDED ONE SESSION WITH FM JAMIESON AND A ONE-HOUR MEETING BETWEEN PM TRUDEAU AND CHI. JAMIESON TALKS WERE "NOTHING," IN WHITTLETON'S WORD,

SINCE THE SESSION INCLUDED NEARLY ENTIRE CHINESE DELEGATION AND VAST ARRAY OF CANADIAN OFFICIALS.

4. WHITTLETON INDICATED CHINESE WERE APPARENTLY FLATTERED BY SPECIAL ATTENTION OF TRUDEAU, WHO VISITED CHI AT CHINESE EMBASSY AND, AFTER AN HOUR OF DISCUSSIONS, PROCEEDED TO RECEPTION IN SAME PLACE. CHI REVIEWED EVENTS IN CHINA SINCE 1973 WHEN TRUDEAU WAS LAST THERE, INCLUDING EVENTS LIKE "TRAGEDY" OF GANG OF FOUR. TRUDEAU RAISED SOVIET ISSUE WITH EXPRESSIONS OF CONCERN OVER SOVIET POLICY IN AFRICA AND MIDDLE EAST. CHI TOOK THE CUE, ACCORDING TO WHITTLETON, AND LAUNCHED STANDARD ATTACK ON SOVIET HEGEMONY AROUND WORLD. WHILE CHI EXPRESSED VIEW THAT PRESIDENT CARTER'S SPEECH TO NAVAL ACADEMY WAS QUITE TOUGH, HE ASSERTED THAT SOVIETS HAD BEEN GAINING POWER THROUGH AGGRESSIVE POLICY IN ASIA AND AFRICA, WHEREAS US HAD MERELY BEEN MAKING CONCESSIONS. CHI SAID THAT, DURING HIS VISIT TO CHINA, BRZEZINSKI HAD BEEN TOLD THAT US POLICY HAD BEEN FAVORING SOVIET UNION. ACCORDING TO CHI, WHEN BRZEZINSKI HAD DENIED THAT US WAS FOLLOWING POLICY OF APPEASEMENT, CHINESE HOSTS REPLIED THAT CHINA LOOKS AT DEEDS AND NOT WORDS.

5. TRUDEAU TOLD CHI THAT CARTER SPEECH WAS IN KEEPING WITH NATO AWARENESS OF DANGERS INHERENT IN AGGRESSIVE SOVIET POLICY. HE NOTED THAT NATO COUNTRIES HAD NO INTENTION OF

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FOLLOWING APPEASEMENT POLICY. HE ADDED THAT CANADA IS PREPARED TO INCREASE ITS MILITARY CAPACITY IN THE FACE OF GROWING SOVIET THREAT BUT, AT SAME TIME, IS ACTIVELY INVOLVED IN MBFR AND UN DISARMAMENT EFFORTS, WHICH ARE A TEST OF SOVIET INTENTIONS. CHI CAME BACK WITH COMMENT ABOUT "SHAM DISARMAMENT." HE DESCRIBED SOVIET-PRC RELATIONS AS "VERY BAD."

6. COMMENT: WHITTLETON WAS DUBIOUS ABOUT POSITIVE SUBSTANTIVE RESULTS OF VISIT BUT FELT THAT CHINESE WERE IMPRESSED WITH RED-CARPET TREATMENT THEY RECEIVED. HE INDICATED THAT PRESENT STATE OF GOC-PRC RELATIONS SEEMS TO FEATURE RAPIDLY INCREASING FLOW OF VISITS AND MENTIONED, FOR EXAMPLE, FACT THAT SIX CANADIAN MINISTERS HAD PUT OUT FEELERS TO HIS OFFICE ABOUT POSSIBLE VISITS TO CHINA. EMBOFF RECEIVED IMPRESSION THAT, AS THESE EXPOSURE EXERCISES GO, THIS ONE WENT RATHER WELL. ENDERS

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